



JRW/mage

PATENT

SN-US020066

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Shigeharu TAIRA : Patent Art Unit: 3744
Serial No.: 10/501,553 :
Filed: July 16, 2004 :
For: METHOD FOR DETERMINING :
RECYCLABILITY OF REFRIGERANT- :
USE EQUIPMENT OR REFRIGERANT- :
PIPING, AND CHECK TOOL FOR :
RECYCLABILITY OF REFRIGERANT- :
USE EQUIPMENT OR REFRIGERANT- :
PIPING :
:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to a first Office Action of this application. Thus, *no fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement*. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

A Japanese Office Action (copy attached) was issued on March 15, 2005 in the corresponding Japanese application. The Japanese Patent Office cited two new references, which are listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form.

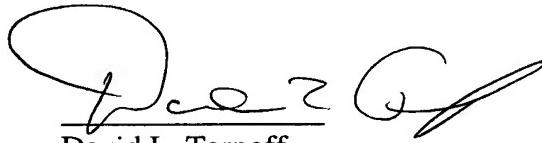
Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2001-133566 discloses a method of displaying the expiration date of a food or a medicine. This publication was cited in the Japanese Office Action and references the label 1. An English abstract of this publication is provided to better understand the pertinence of this reference.

Japanese Laid-Open Utility- Model Patent Publication No. 02-146588 discloses a washing machine. This publication was cited of interest in the Japanese Office Action, but not relied upon.

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Tarnoff
Reg. No. 32,383

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP
1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202)-293-0444
Dated: 3-31-05

